

River Weaver debut on 'Danny's' 'shakedown' trip



SS *Daniel Adamson* on the Weaver Navigation passes under the Warrington to Chester railway line at Sutton Weaver, en route from Ellesmere Port to Acton Bridge on September 30, 2016. ALL: BRIAN DOBBS

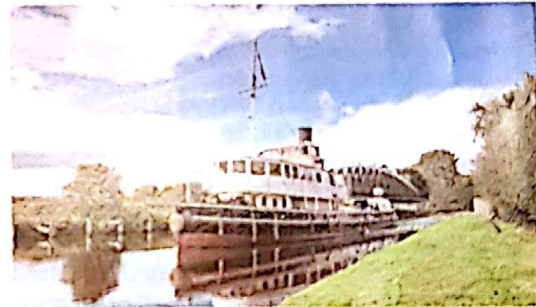
FOLLOWING months preparing for an important MCA (Maritime & Coastguard Agency) certification the 1903 *Daniel Adamson* steam ship has now passed and as a celebration was able to cruise with passengers along the River Weaver, which has been enabled through the work of the Canal & River Trust.

The 'Danny' left Ellesmere Port on September 30 for a cruise along the River Weaver. Not only was it her first trip with the public, it was also her first trip along the River Weaver after the Canal & River Trust completed its dredging programme, making the trip possible. The destination was the Little Leigh Steam Party at Acton Bridge over the weekend of October 1-2, and she returned to Ellesmere Port on October 3.

Chairman of The Daniel Adamson Preservation Society, Dan Cross, said: "The River Weaver is Cheshire's hidden gem, a glorious and scenic waterway cutting right through the heart of the Cheshire countryside while its history and architecture remind us of its once important status as a commercial waterway. I grew up and worked on the River Weaver and I am delighted that thanks to the co-operation and determination of the Canal & River Trust in working with us, we are able to bring the *Daniel Adamson*



The *Danny* negotiates Dutton Locks.



Passing through Sutton Weaver Swing Bridge.

up the river to Acton Bridge for the Little Leigh Steam Party.

"Bringing up to 100 passengers into the heart of Cheshire is a vital step in what we hope will become a regular cruising ground for *Daniel Adamson*, which we believe to have never navigated the Weaver before and a fitting cruise to mark the completion of the near £3m refit of the vessel, made possible by the generosity of the Heritage Lottery Fund and the work done by Cammell Laird; over 100,000 hours of work by our volunteers and donations in cash and kind from many other bodies and organisations since 2004."

The 'Danny' can be seen static and is also available for private hire. Correspondent Ian Cooper was on board the *Daniel Adamson* for its inaugural cruise for *Old Glory* magazine and his report will follow next issue.



A crew photo on arrival at Acton Bridge.